GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:967
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
RELIEF IN PROPERTY TAX TO RAIN HARVESTORS
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to give relief to rain harvestors in their property tax liability on the basis of recommendations made by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA);

(b) if so, the details and the efforts being made by the Government to promote rain water harvesting;

(c) whether any financial incentives are proposed to be given to rain harvestors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) The Central Government has requested all the States/Union Territories for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in Property Tax to persons, who adopt roof top rain water harvesting in their premises.

(b) to (d) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources including rain water harvesting. The Central Government has initiated following measures for rain water harvesting in the country:-

(i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country.

(ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

(iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.

(iv) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.

(v) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwbindia.com) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.